

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

39. (Currently Amended.) A polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide pendant to ~~the~~ a polymer chain, being chemically bound thereto through some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide, and the said chemical binding to secondary amine nitrogen atoms is by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aminal linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

40. (Previously Presented.) A polymeric material according to claim 39 wherein the biguanide is the residue of chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

41. (Currently Amended.) A medical device comprising a polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide pendant to ~~the~~ a polymer chain, being chemically bound thereto through some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide, and the said chemical binding to secondary amine nitrogen atoms is by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aminal linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

42. (Previously Presented.) A medical device according to claim 41 wherein the biguanide is a residue of chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

43. (Previously Presented.) A medical device according to claim 41 wherein the medical device is formed from or coated with the polymeric material incorporating the infection resistant biguanide, or the medical device is first formed from or coated with polymeric material which is thereafter chemically bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection resistant biguanide, or the medical device is first formed from or coated with polymeric material which is

thereafter chemically bound to the residuum of a non-polymeric compound that has been bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection resistant biguanide.

44. (Previously Presented.) A medical device according to claim 41 formed as a contact lens or intra-ocular lens.

45. (Currently Amended.) A method of making ~~an infection resistant~~ a polymeric material according to claim + 39 which comprises chemically binding reactive sites on a polymeric material with some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aминаl linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage.

46. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim 45 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide before binding the reactive sites with the secondary nitrogen atoms.

47. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

48. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbidomide coupling agent.

49. (Currently Amended.) A method of making an infection resistant polymeric material which comprises modifying a polymer precursor by chemically binding some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH-biguanide group or groups of an infection resistant biguanide by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aминаl linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage, with reactive sites on the polymer precursor, and thereafter

converting the so modified polymer precursor to an infection resistant polymeric material by a method including a polymerisation step.

50. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 49 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide before binding the reactive sites with the nitrogen atoms.

51. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

52. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the secondary nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodimide coupling agent.

53. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 49 wherein the polymer precursor also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the polymerisation step is carried out by polymerising the modified polymer precursor through the said groups.

54. (Currently Amended.) A method of making ~~an infection resistant~~ a polymeric material according to claim + 39 which comprises modifying a non-polymeric compound by chemically binding some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of the -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide by means of a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aминаl linkage, or a tertiary amine linkage, with reactive sites on the non-polymeric compound, and thereafter chemically binding the so modified compound to a polymeric material.

55. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim 54 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide before binding the reactive sites with the secondary nitrogen atoms.

56. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

57. (Currently Amended.) A method according to claim 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the secondary nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodimide coupling agent.

58. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 54 wherein the non-polymeric compound also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the modified compound is chemically bound to a polymeric material through the said groups.

59. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with other polymeric material to form an infection resistant polymer blend for use in forming an article of manufacture.

60. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 59 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with medically acceptable polymeric material to form an infection resistant medical polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a medical device.

61. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 60 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.

62. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 61 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups includes acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the polymer is subsequently copolymerised with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.

63. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claims 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently coated on to an article of manufacture to form an infection resistant coating thereon.

64. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 45 wherein the biguanide compound is chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

65. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 64 wherein the resulting polymer contains biguanide groups derived from both chlorhexidine and polyhexanide.

66. (Previously Presented.) A method according to claim 55 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the binding to the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.